

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the application as indicated hereafter.

In the Claims

Please substitute the following clean copy text for the pending claims of the same number.

542
B1

6. (Once Amended) An integrated circuit comprising:
a first port located in a first area of integrated circuit real estate, for outputting a signal;
a second port located in a second area of integrated circuit real estate, for receiving said signal;
a common area comprising an alignment link for electrically connecting said first port with said second port;
said first port extends directly into said common area from a first area;
said second port extends directly into said common area from a second area;
said alignment link comprises a signal buffer for buffering a signal traveling along said alignment link between said first port and said second port; and
said integrated circuit real estate comprises multi-levels.

B2

10. (Once Amended) An integrated circuit according to claim 9 wherein said wire-tracing level comprises a plurality of wire-tracing levels.